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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 770

By Davis (Cocke)

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Edgar Taylor Haun of Greeneville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Reverend Edgar Taylor Haun; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun was an outstanding citizen who performed his religious duties with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion, giving unselfishly of himself, his time and his talents for the greater good of his faith, his family and friends, and the greater Greeneville community; and

WHEREAS, he was born into a Christian home on December 30, 1918; his parents instilled in him the qualities of kindness, love for family and friends, and a strong conviction for living a Christ-like life; by example and deed, he taught those among his company the importance of a commitment to Christ and the church; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Greene County, Reverend Haun was a highly respected member of his community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun answered God's call to the ministry in 1957; his ability as a speaker and teacher and his spirituality should serve as benchmarks for other religious leaders to emulate; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun served with acumen and alacrity as a humble and effective minister of the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church for 17 years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers, the church's leaders and his congregants and alike for the superior quality of his Christian service and the depth and sincerity of his faith; and

WHEREAS, he was ordained a Deacon in the United Methodist Church on June 4, 1961, an Elder on June 2, 1963, and became an Associate Member of the Holston Conference in 1970; he was the first Methodist Minister to be sent to an Evangelical United Brethren Church in the Holston Conference; and

WHEREAS, during his laudable service to the United Methodist Church from 1957-1998, Reverend Taylor Haun rendered astute service as the pastor of St. Charles Circuit, Pine Grove Circuit, First Surgoinsville Church, Cherokee Circuit, and Mt. Zion Church; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from the ministry in 1984, Reverend Haun was called upon by the New Ebenezer Presbyterian Church to serve as their pastor while the church searched for a permanent minister; he pastored that congregation for 14 years and delivered his final message "If I knew this would be the last message I would ever preach, what would I tell the people? It would be Prepare to Meet Thy God", on December 27, 1998; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun was an exemplary religious leader and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens and his parishioners in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, his open heart, indomitable spirit, and stalwart ethics endeared him to his parishioners as a humble servant of God; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun has left this world for a far better one, where he will reap the reward for his tireless lifelong efforts – the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun's unparalleled legacy of courage, boundless energy, and religious devotion will forever be etched in the hearts and minds of his beloved parishioners and his legion of family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Taylor Haun was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Gertrude Moore Haun and was the proud parent of two daughters, Mary Ann McCamey and Eddie Lynn Yates, and one son, our most valued colleague, Senator Tommy George Haun; and

WHEREAS, he was a devoted grandfather to Tonya Henry, Todd McCamey, Trent Henry, and Debany Haun; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Haun leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional Christian servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Reverend Taylor Haun, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the Christian life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Reverend Haun.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.